

REPUBLICANS DEMAND FULL PROTECTION FOR AMERICAN CITIZENS

Wilson's Policy in Mexico Has Democratic Indorsement and Republican Disapproval.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—The record of the administration during the last three and a half years fairly raises the question whether the American people desire to have Americans in Mexico protected henceforth at all hazards by the power of the United States government.

The re-election of President Wilson would constitute an indorsement of his policy, though it has failed to secure the lives and property of Americans in Mexico, and of his warning to American to flee the country or remain at their own peril without the protection of the United States.

The election of Mr. Hughes would indicate the dissatisfaction of the nation with the Wilson policy and the conviction that the exiled Americans should be allowed to return to their properties in Mexico and be protected by the United States if the Mexican government fails to perform this function.

Precedent for Protection. Hitherto the accepted view of a majority of the people has been that the paramount function of a government is to protect its citizens, not only within its jurisdiction, but wherever they may sojourn in the world. The country applauded Roosevelt's successful ultimatum to Morocco.

"Perfidious alive or Raisuli dead." The nation likewise approved the dispatch of an American army to Peking to rescue the Americans from the Chinese Boxers, and there was no indication that the people would have deemed it any the less incumbent upon the government to take such action had the menaced Americans not been diplomatic officials or had the United States army been the only rescuing force.

The Republicans and Progressives and the Democrats up to 1912 always maintained a strong attitude on the question. In the 1916 platform the Republicans declared that the government should "enforce the protection of every American citizen in all the rights secured to him by

the constitution, treaties, and the law of a nation, at home and abroad, by land and sea," and the Progressives declared it the duty of the government to "secure the rights of our citizens at home and abroad."

Wilson's Amendment. The Democrats, however, in their St. Louis platform receded from their previous attitude and noted a veiled qualification of the general rule designed to apply to Mexico.

"The American government," says the Democratic platform, "should protect American citizens in their rights, not only at home, but abroad, and any country having a government should be held to strict accountability for any wrong done them, either to person or property."

The president inserted the latter part of this declaration in order to account by implication for his failure to protect Americans in Mexico. He said that Mexico had no government, despite the fact that after the murder of Madero he dealt officially with one and sometimes two governments in Mexico, and finally recognized a de facto government, and at all times sought to hold these various governments to a "strict accountability" for injuries to Americans.

Bade Americans Flee. Inasmuch, however, as the Democrats say they would protect Americans everywhere it follows that they would extend all necessary protection in a country having no government. This, however, the president did not do. He bade Americans flee Mexico because he was unwilling to furnish them protection.

While the president and the Democratic leaders were framing an exemption from the paramount duty of government designed to apply to Mexico Mr. Wilson was inditing a letter to Carranza in which he admitted that it is a special obligation of the United States to protect Americans in the revolution stricken country. The Lansing note to Carranza June 20 last, which was approved by the president, referred to the "first duty of the government—namely, the protection of life and property," declared that "this is the paramount obligation for which governments are instituted," and then proclaimed in these words the duty of the United States to act

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where Mexico fails:

"Protection of American lives and property, then, in the United States is the first obligation of this government, and in Mexico first, the obligation of Mexico, and, second, the obligation of the United States."

Inconsistency of Policy. These inconsistencies, however, have been the dominant feature of the president's Mexican policy, of which there have been no less than the following fifteen stages:

1. President refused to recognize Huerta because he gained power by violence, but later recognized President Benavides of Peru and President Zamora of Haiti, both of whom gained their power by violence and bloodshed.

2. Adopted "watchful waiting" with no definite program.

3. Dispatched Confidential Agent Lind, committing United States to partnership with rebels. Removed embargo on arms.

4. On April 20, 1914, said there would be no "interference"; at same time ordered assault on Vera Cruz, a "war of service."

5. Submitted to arbitration of question of national honor by A. B. C. powers.

6. Withdrew from Vera Cruz with neither object of invasion attained.

7. Announced in Indianapolis speech Mexico was none of our business, and no one should prevent Mexico spilling all the blood it chose.

8. Reversed stand completely; said United States would compel settlement.

9. Called in six Latin American nations, which agreed to ask Mexican chiefs to settle on one leader.

10. Carranza alone spurned the plan, and Villa and other rebels accepted the United States and Latin American dictum, but Carranza was recognized.

11. State department declined to press claims, because the government it had recognized "is not a stable government."

12. Carranza ignored after Villa raid; second armed intervention in Mexico started "to get Villa dead or alive."

13. Carranza declared American troops should go no further. Wilson stopped troops, but denied that they would be withdrawn.

14. United States troops withdrawn to Colonia Dublan, more than three-fourths the entire distance. President refused to allow settlement by commission of problems named by Carranza.

15. Accepted commission proposal and named commission.

Changeable Embargo Rule. The changeable policy has attended the attitude toward the exportation of arms and ammunition as well. The traffic was forbidden by President Taft in February, 1912, soon after it had been pointed out that it was American rifles and cartridges which were making the carnage of the revolution possible. Here is what Mr. Wilson did about it:

August 27, 1913.—Declares embargo will remain. Despite this the United States only four days before had permitted 320 rifles and 97,000 cartridges to go to Huerta's soldiers from MEXICO.

This was after the "Huerta must go" stand. April 23, 1914.—Restores embargo.

May 15.—Lifts embargo at Tampico, supplying rebels.

May 27.—Allows Ypiranga to land German arms and cartridges at Puerto, Mexico, whence they proceeded to Huerta at capital. To prevent this shipment reaching Huerta the Vera Cruz blockade had been established five weeks previously.

September 9, 1914.—Raises whole embargo, although now even the rebel party had split up and all Mexico was aflame. In that month Villa obtained one shipment of 10,000 American rifles.

October 12, 1915.—Embargo on all Mexico.

October 19.—Embargo raised for Carranza alone.

June 10.—Declares embargo once more.

Sending Arms to Carranza. Although Villa raided American soil on March 7 and the American expedition started into Mexico, Wilson permitted Carranza to buy in this country 3,000,000 rounds of cartridges, in three shipments alone, in the succeeding months. The last went after Carranza had ambushed our men at Parral. Moreover, in the second month, just after the Parral outrage, Carranza's representative even dared demand of Mr. Wilson's state department why American agents were delaying the shipment of five cartridge making machines made in Waterbury, Conn. Mr. Wilson's state department made an inquiry in haste. One month after that came the fight at Carrizal.

Has Kept Mexico Supplied. During the Wilson administration before the final embargo went into effect the United States had sent to Mexico 11,300,000 pounds of dynamite and 215,000 pounds of gunpowder. It had supplied the various factions of murderers with 140,000,000 rounds of ammunition and \$2,270,000 worth of firearms. These figures are from administration sources and are unquestioned. It is known vast quantities in addition were smuggled across.

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(SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAM)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 25.—If the Germans and Bulgarians can press their northward drive through the Dobruja province of Roumania for a distance of fifty miles until the Bucharest-Constantza railway line is reached the first point to be controlled on this highway of traffic will be the great bridge across the Danube at Cernavoda. The National Geographic Society set for the importance of this bridge both to commerce and as an engineering achievement in the following bulletin issued today in Washington:

"Regele Carol I is the official name of the greatest bridge in Roumania and one of the most interesting series of railway spans in the world. It is the long steel and stone link which when completed in 1895 bound Ostend on the North sea to Constantza on the Black sea, two points that at the outbreak of this war were connected by a de luxe express train service three times a week.

"At the time it was thrown open to traffic this was the only bridge spanning the Danube below the Serbian capital of Belgrade. The engineer responsible for the structure was a Roumanian, A. Salgari, by whose name the village of Cernavoda is designated on some of the more modern maps of that country.

"Together with the approaches and the stone causeways across that part of the neighboring marshes and meadows which are subject to periodical inundations, this great structure is fully fourteen miles long. The bridge proper, over the main channel of the river, is a slender iron structure more than 2,400 feet long, disposed in five arches. Two mighty abutments on the right and left banks, together with six stone piers and ice breakers support this section which is elevated more than 100 feet above the water, thus enabling the tallest

vessels to pass beneath it without hindrance.

"The bridge cost the Roumanian government nearly \$7,000,000. With its completion Bucharest was brought within a seven hours' journey of the Black sea shore. The eastern end of the bridge is thirty miles in an air-line west of Constantza, and ninety miles east of Bucharest. The distance by rail between the capital and the port is 147 miles. Owing to the importance of this line in the handling of troops landed at Constantza by Russian transports, work is probably being rushed on the double track-

ing of the road between Bucharest and Cernavoda, this extension of the state owned railway system having been decided upon by the Roumanian parliament more than a year ago."

NO TRUER MAN

For Governor Could West Virginia Have Than Robinson Says Dr. King.

In a statement issued by the Rev. William B. King, who is pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal church of this city, Dr. King pays a high tribute to his friend and co-worker in church work, Judge Ira E. Robinson, as follows:

"I have known Judge Ira E. Robinson, candidate for governor of West Virginia on the Republican ticket, for many years. I have been his pastor, and know him to be a Christian gentleman in every particular.

"It shall be my highest delight to speak a word for him whenever opportunity occurs, and I believe that West Virginia could have no truer man for its next governor than Judge Robinson."

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